

Message Text

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14

ORIGIN COME-00

INFO OCT-01 NEA-10 ISO-00 AID-05 CIAE-00 EB-07 FRB-03

INR-07 NSAE-00 USIA-06 TRSE-00 XMB-02 OPIC-03 SP-02

CIEP-01 LAB-04 SIL-01 OMB-01 NSC-05 SS-15 STR-04

CEA-01 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02 L-03 PA-01 PRS-01 SSM-03

SAM-01 OES-06 IO-13 /112 R

DRAFTED BY COM/BIC/CAGNE/GTBECK:JR

APPROVED BY NEA/RA:SEPALMER,JR.

COM/BIC/CAGNE/PBHALE

STATE/NEA/ARN/DREUTHER

STATE/EB/ORF/FSE/RMARTIN

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P 040143Z SEP 76

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO USINT BAGHDAD PRIORITY

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E.O 11652:N/A

TAGS: BEXP, IZ

SUBJECT: ALLEGED THREAT BY SECRETARY OF COMMERCE.

REF: BAGHDAD 1261

1. "COMMERCE AMERICA" AUGUST 16 REPORT OF SECRETARY
RICHARDSON SPEECH OMITTED FOLLOWING TWO PARAGRAPHS WHICH
APPEARED IN JULY 28 PRESS RELEASE CONCERNING THE ADDRESS
(INSERT BETWEEN COLUMN THREE LINES FOUR AND FIVE "COMMERCE
AMERICA" REPORT) QUOTE: SOME, NO DOUBT WOULD ARGUE FOR
ABANDONMENT OF OUR TRADITIONAL SUPPORT FOR THE STATE OF
ISRAEL. OTHERS WOULD DEMAND FORCEFUL INTERVENTION AGAINST
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THE ARABS. EITHER COURSE OF ACTION COULD FUNDAMENTALLY

DESTABILIZE THE INTERNATIONAL BALANCE OF POWER -- AND
THREATEN ULTIMATELY TO INVOLVE THE UNITED STATES IN A
MAJOR MILITARY STRUGGLE. WHETHER POLITICAL LEADERS COULD
RESIST IRRATIONAL PRESSURES, IN SUCH CIRCUMSTANCES, AND
CHART A RATIONAL COURSE, IS HIGHLY UNCERTAIN. GIVEN THE
RISKS AND BEHAVIORAL UNCERTAINTIES INVOLVED, THESE ARE
EXACTLY THE CIRCUMSTANCES WHICH RESPONSIBLE POLICY-MAKERS
MUST SEEK TO AVOID. YET THESE ARE EXACTLY THE CIRCUMSTANCES
TOWARD WHICH WE MAY BE HEADED. UNQUOTE.

2. WHEN THESE REMARKS ARE READ IN CONTEXT OF THE WHOLE
SPEECH IT IS CLEARLY EVIDENT THAT PURPOSE OF SECRETARY
RICHARDSON COMMENTS WAS NOT TO THREATEN THE ARABS BUT
RATHER TO AVOID A POSSIBLE CONFRONTATION WITH THE ARABS
IN THE EVENT OF A FUTURE THREAT OF AN OIL EMBARGO.

3. FULL TEXT OF SPEECH PROVIDED TO USINT PRINCIPAL OFFICER,
MARSHALL WILEY, WHO VISITED CAGNE SEPTEMBER 1. ROBINSON

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04 MAY 2006

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